

CHARTER

Inter-agency Working Group Research, Development, Testing and Evaluation

Subcommittee on Forensic Science Committee on Science National Science and Technology Council

A. Designation

The Inter-agency Working Group for Research, Development, Testing and Evaluation (IWG RDT&E) of the Subcommittee on Forensic Science (Subcommittee) is hereby established.

B. Background

The Charter of the Subcommittee on Forensic Science, Committee of Science (COS), National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), was enacted on July 7, 2009. The Subcommittee on Forensic Science will advise and assist the COS and the NSTC and other coordination bodies of the Executive Office of the President on policies, procedures and plans related to forensic science in the national security, criminal justice, and medical examiner/coroner systems at the local, state and federal levels.

C. Functions

In support of the Subcommittee's efforts, the IWG RDT&E shall convene with the purpose of exchanging views, information, and advice relating to the management and implementation of Federal programs relating to forensic science that are established pursuant to statutes that share intergovernmental responsibilities or administration. Such statutes include, but are not limited to, 42 U.S.C 14132 and the Justice for All Act. In pursuing its mandate, the IWG RDT&E shall focus in particular on issues relating to forensic science research, development, testing and evaluation. Examples of the work the IWG RDT&E may undertake include, but are not limited to:

- Identify and prioritize extant research, development, testing and evaluation related to forensic science.
- Identify current and future plans for research, development, testing and evaluation related to forensic science.
- Conduct gap analysis.
- Identify costs of research, development, testing and evaluation related to forensic science.

D. Organization

The IWG RDT&E's co-chairs, executive secretary, and voting members shall be federal employees. In addition, state, local, and/or tribal elected officers (or their designated employees with authority to act on their behalf), and only such officers or employees, shall be invited to participate in the IWG RDT&E as members in an advisory capacity. The IWG RDT&E shall communicate its findings to the Subcommittee as requested. The IWG RDT&E shall, as appropriate, outreach to and obtain input from forensic science and criminal justice organizations; state, local, and private practitioners; and other stakeholders.

E. Termination

The IWG RDT&E shall terminate concurrently with the Subcommittee on Forensic Science.

F. Approval

In my capacity as Co-chair of the Subcommittee on Forensic Science, I hereby determine that the formation of the Inter-agency Working Group for Research, Development, Testing and Evaluation is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Executive Branch by law, and that such duties can best be performed through the advice and counsel of such a group.



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